

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The application has been amended so as to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

There are no formal matters outstanding.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation that the Official Action indicated that claims 3, 5, 8, 10, 15, 17 and 18 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the recitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In reliance thereupon claims 2-3 have been canceled and the subject matter of these claims have been added to independent claim 1. Accordingly, independent claim 1 includes the subject matter of allowable claim 3. Allowance of claim 1 is therefore solicited.

Claim 4 has been canceled and the subject matter of this claim has been added to allowable claim 5. Accordingly, allowance of claim 5 is solicited.

Claims 7-8 have been canceled and the subject matter of these claims have been incorporated into independent claim 6. Accordingly, independent claim 6 now includes the subject matter of allowable claim 8. Allowance of claim 6 is solicited.

Claim 9 has been canceled. The subject matter of independent claim 6 together with canceled claim 9 has been added to allowable claim 10. Accordingly, allowance of claim 10 is solicited.

Allowable claim 15 has been canceled and the subject matter of this claim has been incorporated in independent claim 14. Accordingly, allowance of claim 14 and the claims depending therefrom is solicited. Claim 16 has been canceled. The dependencies of claims 17-18 have been amended to depend from now allowable claim 14.

In view of the above, Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is respectfully requested.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge the fee of \$168 for the addition of two extra independent claim(s), added herewith, to Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

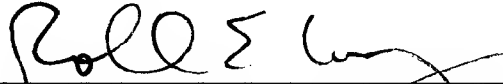
The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

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overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional
fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Roland E. Long, Jr., Reg. No. 41,949
Attorney for Applicant
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297

REL/bsg